

a more concise yet well illustrated fashion. I have kept the present two-volume set on my desk, and have referred to it with respect to every problem in pediatric surgery that I have encountered either personally or in my hospital experience during the past two months. I have found the two-volume set on pediatric surgery excellent, but have several minor criticisms concerning it. In the areas of the common problems, the coverage in the new pediatric surgery is generally excessive, yet not more helpful than the coverage of similar material in the books of Swenson and Gross. The coverage in the areas of specialties, such as neuro-surgery, orthopedics, plastic and cardiovascular surgery, is generally quite good, but still would not permit the average surgeon to undertake surgical care in these areas, nor would it be a reference source for those engaged in these specialty fields. The problem of presentation, admittedly, is a complex one, for pediatric surgery overlaps so extensively into the specialties of orthopedics, neurosurgery, cardiovascular surgery and plastic surgery that it is hard for any one surgeon to be competent in all of these areas. The specialty texts in these special disciplines contain more information for the specialist than does this book on pediatric surgery. The advances in the specialties are covered better than in the existing books on pediatric surgery, but the present two volumes can hardly serve as a reference set for the specialty areas. Each specialty is advancing with sufficient speed that the book gives only the basic knowledge in the specialty areas and cannot serve as a definitive work in the specialty areas.

These criticisms are minor ones, and inherent, of course, in the nature of this work, which fuses the concepts and interests of 79 different authorities. It makes, however, of the books the type of book which is best suited for hospital or library use rather than one which should be kept handy and available on the desk of the practicing surgeon. Everyone interested in pediatric surgery should be familiar with these two volumes, should have access to them in his library or hospital environment, but in the majority of everyday problems will find the smaller texts simpler and equally serviceable for daily use. Reliance will still have to be placed on definitive articles in the general surgical literature, rather than on these two volumes for specialty problems, particularly in fields of cardiovascular, plastic, orthopedic and neurosurgery.

The subject matter covered is quite comprehensive, and the size of the works permits detailed consideration of physiological, embryological, anatomical and pathological considerations, as well as attention to diagnosis and surgical therapy. No better coverage of pediatric surgery can be found in the American literature today. The editors and publishers are to be congratulated on the excellence of this work, even though it is the kind of work that need not be in the personal library of each practicing surgeon and physician.

VICTOR RICHARDS, M.D.

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THE HEMORRHAGIC DISORDERS—A Clinical and Therapeutic Approach—Second Edition, Revised and Enlarged—Mario Stefanini, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, Mass.; Clinical Pathologist and Associate in Medicine (Hematology), Willys Clinic; Attending Physician (Hematology), Mercy Hospital and Maumee Valley Hospital, and Attending Staff, Toledo Hospital, Toledo, Ohio; and William Dameshek, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Tufts University School of Medicine, and Senior Physician and Director, Blood Research Laboratory, New England Center Hospital, Boston, Mass. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 381 Park Avenue South, New York 16, N. Y., 1962. 614 pages, \$21.50.

This new edition is completely revised and enlarged in line with the rapid changes in knowledge in this complex field. It presents the authors' views on the factors involved in normal hemostasis, and then proceeds to a discussion

of vascular defects, thrombocytopenia and qualitative platelet defects, coagulation factor deficiencies, circulating anti-coagulants, and hemorrhagic diseases of complex etiology. The authors draw heavily on their own extensive experience in this field. A large number of graphs and photographs illustrate findings in their cases.

The authors have chosen to present a wealth of detail about all the topics under discussion rather than limit themselves to well-established and basic facts. In so doing, they have included references to many reports whose findings await confirmation, some of them having appeared only in abstract form. As a result, the book contains very many statements which could not be accepted by other experts in the field; and it will undoubtedly be difficult reading for anyone without a strong foundation of knowledge in this area of medicine.

On the other hand, this book provides more detailed coverage of the clinical aspects of the hemorrhagic states than any other similar text, and it therefore provides a source of information not easily available elsewhere. There are over 1555 references. Extensive use of tables provides excellent summaries of many facets of the problems discussed. The book will be a useful addition to medical libraries, but it should not read uncritically.

HERBERT A. PERKINS, M.D.

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SYNOPSIS OF GENITOURINARY DISEASE—Seventh Edition—Austin I. Dodson, Jr., M.D., Associate Clinical Professor of Urology, Medical College of Virginia, Richmond; and J. Edward Hill, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Urology, Medical College of Virginia, Richmond. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1962. 384 pages, 123 illustrations.

First published in 1934, this book has been revised and brought up to date. It has always been a good reference book for general practice and for medical students. It is small, easy to handle, well written and inexpensive. There are chapters on the signs and symptoms of urinary disease, the urological instruments that might be needed in general practice and the anatomy of the genitourinary organs. Other chapters briefly cover the commonly encountered urologic diseases.

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HAEMATOLOGY AND BLOOD GROUPS—Papers from the British Medical Bulletin—Edited by D. A. G. Galton and K. L. G. Goldsmith. The University of Chicago Press, 5750 Ellis Avenue, Chicago 37, Illinois, 1961. 169 pages, \$4.00.

The material contained in this book consists of a reprint of a series of articles originally appearing in the British Medical Bulletin 15: (Numbers 1 and 2) 1959. These are brief but authoritative résumés of research and clinical concepts in the field of hematology, blood chemistry and immunology, and blood groups and are authoritatively current to the publication date. They are not presented in great detail, nor do they contain material not generally available in the literature elsewhere. They include summarizations concerning certain aspects of iron, B₁₂, and folic acid metabolism, the biosynthesis and chemistry of hemoglobins, the technique of marrow culture, the metabolic, technological and clinical features of the hemolytic anemias, and treatment and epidemiology of human leukemias. Also summarizations are given of current knowledge of blood groups in man and animals together with discussion of genetic and anthropologic data on human blood groups. The thirty contributors are leaders in their field. The chief attribute of the book is the bringing together in one place of certain authoritative though brief discussions of these selected, special topics.